



Washington State
Department of Transportation
Douglas B. MacDonald
Secretary of Transportation

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Grace Crunican, Director
Seattle Department of Transportation
PO Box 34996
Seattle, WA 98104-4995

Dear Ms. Crunican:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has completed its review of the preliminary traffic analysis developed to determine the most effective means of managing traffic during construction of the Alaskan Way Viaduct, with a particular emphasis on the specific strategies for managing traffic in to, out of, and through the south end of the viaduct project. As you know, regardless of the final alternative selected, or the specific traffic management strategy selected, moving traffic from West Seattle to and from downtown is very challenging. Based on our review of the preliminary traffic analysis, it appears that construction of an eastbound off ramp from the South Spokane St. Viaduct to northbound 4th Avenue South provides a significant benefit during construction of the viaduct project (in terms of saved time and reduced staging). This ramp helps keep traffic out of the viaduct construction zone and puts that traffic directly onto 4th Avenue South where there is unused capacity to be utilized, thus reducing travel time and throughput impacts during viaduct construction. Our preliminary cost-benefit analysis shows that a state investment of up to \$25 million in this ramp is warranted, assuming the results of the preliminary traffic analysis are validated in the final traffic report. This letter serves to confirm our agreement in principle to financially participate in this improvement to help manage traffic during construction of the viaduct.

When the final traffic report and cost-benefit evaluation are completed this summer and the final results are available, we will be prepared to enter into a formal agreement with the City for the appropriate state share of this improvement. I look forward to working with you on this and all aspects of the viaduct project.

Sincerely,

David L. Dye, P.E.,
Urban Corridors Administrator
Washington State Department of Transportation